# Survivor TRICARE Benefits Process: Determining eligibility and enrollment of Survivors in TRICARE after the death of a Soldier on active duty

#### **Point of Contact**

**Division:** Soldier Family Support and Services Division (ARNG-HRF)

#### **Description**

TRICARE is available to eligible Survivors of a Soldier who dies while on active duty. Eligible Survivors include the surviving spouse and children under the age of 21 or under the age of 23 if enrolled in a full-time course study in an institution of higher learning. Survivors are eligible for TRICARE Prime without reenrollment fees and copayments.

### **Regulations and Supporting Resources**

AR 600-8-1, Army Casualty Program

Army Casualty Notification and Assistance Guide

**TRICARE Website** 

#### **Documents and Forms**

A Survivor's Guide to Benefits: Taking Care of Our Own

CMAOC Training, Casualty Assistance Officer (CAO)

DD Form 2876, TRICARE Prime Enrollment Application and PCM Change Form

#### **Related Processes**

**Casualty Assistance Process** 

Ensuring the next of kin (NOK) and beneficiaries receive support after a death occurs

# **Systems**

# <u>Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS)</u>

DEERS is a worldwide, computerized database of uniformed services members (sponsors), their eligible family members, and others who are eligible for Department of Defense (DoD) Identification Cards. DEERS includes over 23 million records pertaining to Active Duty and Reserve Component members and their eligible family members, retired military members, DoD civilian service personnel, and DoD contractors. This system provides accurate and timely information for supporting DoD ID smart cards. The Real Time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) is the system utilized to communicate with the DEERS database through the DoD network and issue Identification Cards to eligible personnel. These two entities are routinely spoken of as one system, yet they are not.

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